

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, October 30th, 2014**

Chairman, Bob Reagan called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. In attendance were Selectmen Robert Reagan, Scott Borthwick, and TA Mike Samson.

Tax Rate 2014

Samson reviewed all of the documents from DRA and discussed all of the issues which had increased the tax rate to more than \$28. He indicated that the reduction in utility valuations had impacted all of the rates by about .7 of 1%. The exemptions also added less than 1%. The major increase was the school which added 5.4% from voted increases and 5% in taxes to cover the loss of surplus. There is a 2% shift on our share of the school budget and that will be about 50% of the increase. Overall the school rate is up about 18.7%. Samson said that he could absorb about 11 cents on the rate by increasing our revenue projection and dropping the overlay to zero. He noted that we can't continue to fund the overlay at zero since it needs to be higher to offset the new school delinquent taxes which total more than the old delinquent taxes. The reduction this year will cushion the blow very slightly but will help. He recommended changing the revenue projection and dropping the overlay which would result in the following rates: Town 6.44, School \$17, State \$2.75 and County \$1.74 for a total rate of \$27.93. Selectman Borthwick moved to approve the recommended changes and rates. Bob Reagan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Bob Reagan asked that Samson include the explanation flyer with the tax bill that had been discussed and tell the taxpayers why the bill was so high and compare the increases over time. Borthwick agreed.

Reagan said that the Town should hold off on sending the tax bills until Wednesday the 5th so that Vicky wouldn't be attacked by irate tax payers. Samson said he would tell her. Reagan asked if we had heard back from Morrison and Depelteau-Tracy. He indicated that Depelteau would attend but we haven't heard from Morrison. The Board directed that we keep the meeting open for 7PM on the night of elections in case Morrison is willing to attend. If, not just brief Kimberley.

Motion by Scott Borthwick to adjourn at 4:15 with second by Reagan. Unanimously approved.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

David McAlister
Canaan Board of Selectmen